

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-26 have been rejected.

Claims 1, 8, 15 and 22 have been amended.

Claims 23-26 have been canceled.

Unless otherwise specified in the below discussion, Applicants have amended the above-referenced claims in order to provide clarity or to correct informalities in the claims. Applicants further submit that, unless discussed below, these amendments are not intended to narrow the scope of the claims. Applicants further submit that support for these amendments can be found throughout the specification, and specifically at least on pp.12-16 of the present Application. Applicants have also canceled claims in order to clarify the issues for prosecution. By these amendments and cancellations, Applicants do not concede that the cited art is prior to any invention now or previously claimed. Applicants further reserve the right to pursue the original versions of the claims in the future, for example, in a continuing application.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) and (e) as purportedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,118,777 issued to Sylvain. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Independent Claims 1, 8, 15 and 22, as amended, include the limitations detailed in the above listing of claims. Applicants respectfully submit that the cited sections of Sylvain fail to provide disclosure of each of the limitations and therefore cannot anticipate the amended claims.

The amendments made to the independent claims provide for the end-user ordering module to display a service provider catalog. The catalog is described as follows:

the service provider product catalog comprises one or more service items, each corresponding to a service item type,
each service item type has a corresponding set of service specifications that describe the service item type,
one or more service items correspond to a corresponding local product item of one or more local product items available from an inter-provider ordering module,
each local product item corresponds to a local item type,
each of the one or more local item types has a corresponding set of local specifications that describe the local item type.

See, e.g., Claim 1 (amended). Applicants respectfully submit that the cited sections of Sylvain fail to provide any disclosure of a service provider catalog, service item types, local product items, and local item types, or characteristics describing service item types or local item types.

The amendments made to the independent claims also provide for determining the claimed developer defined labels (DDRs). Applicants respectfully submit that the cited sections of Sylvain fail to provide any disclosure of DDRs or for determining DDRs by comparing local specifications with service specifications.

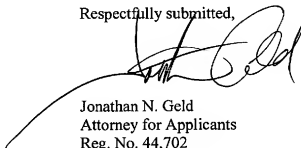
For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited sections of Sylvain fail to provide disclosure of all the limitations of independent Claims 1, 8, 15 and 22, as amended, and all claims depending therefrom and that these claims are in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore respectfully request the Examiner's reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections to these claims and an indication of the allowability of same.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

If any extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) are required in order for this submission to be considered timely, Applicant hereby petitions for such extensions. Applicant also hereby authorizes that any fees due for such extensions or any other fee associated with this submission, as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17, be charged to Deposit Account 502306.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan N. Geld', is written over a long horizontal line that extends to the left.

Jonathan N. Geld
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 44,702
Telephone: (512) 439-5090
Facsimile: (512) 439-5099